

February 10, 1961
(Dictated February 9, 1961)

Dr. Lawrence A., Lacey
2003 Winnebago Street
Madison 4, Wisconsin

Dear Dr. Lacey:

During each month I edit, and write a lot of the copy for, the magazine, AMERICAN OPINION, which runs from twenty thousand to forty thousand words of editorial content per issue. Each month I write, with great pains, every word of the six to ten thousand words of the bulletin of The John Birch Society. I am trying my best to keep up with all of the organizational and growing pains of The John Birch Society which, in slightly over two years, has come from merely a conception to an organization with twenty-five employees here in the Home Office, around twenty-five fully paid Coordinators in the field, and about fifty Coordinators in the field who are on a volunteer basis as to some part of their salary or expenses or both. I have to do a lot of traveling, and to make a considerable number of speeches. Despite every effort of our people here to handle calls for me, I have to spend from twenty to forty hours every week on the long-distance telephone, answering inquiries or straightening out problems of a very wide variety and frequently of considerable complexity. On top of that, and as indicated by the enclosed memorandum, we receive about five hundred letters per day, with every writer, like yourself, expecting or demanding a full answer from me personally to inquiries or arguments on every subject under the sun.

Since I have twice been threatened by an agent of the ADL, because of the supposedly "anti-Semitic" composition of some of my Committees, and since I have just asked the very man to whom the ADL objected most (Merwin Hart) to go on my Committee of Endorsers and he has accepted, your charge of cowardice against me seems a bit unkind.

Since I own and have read practically every book on the list on Page 2 of your letter, since I have had, subscribed to, or made contributions so as to received every issue of Conde McGinley's COMMON SENSE --I believe -- since the day the paper was started; since I had subscribed for years to the paper put out by Robert Williams, and bought all of his pamphlets; and since I have read and studied a great deal of other material along the same lines, your assumption of my ignorance on this subject is not too well founded.

Since I am in touch with, and count among my personal friends, almost every one of the leading anti-Communists in America today; since I have also discussed the Communist conspiracy, from many different angles, personally with Syngman Rhee and Chiang Kai-shek and Chancellor Adenauer and Jacques Soustelle and many other leading anti-Communists in other parts of the world, and am in constant touch by correspondence with some of the ablest and best informed and most courageous writers on the Communist conspiracy in other countries; since I pointed out before Castro even came to power in Cuba that he was beyond any question an actual Communist agent, and did the same with regard to Sukarno years ago, and certainly was the first publisher in America to state unequivocally that both the Poznan-Warsaw riots and the Hungarian insurrection in 1956 had been provoked by the Communists for their own purposes and ultimate gains, and since I could fill several pages with similar items which are now a matter of record; under these circumstances your alternate charge that I use ridiculous logic with regard to the Communist conspiracy or conspirators, and cannot understand it, will hardly stand up against the facts.

All you are really saying, Dr. Lacey, is that since I do not agree completely with you I am either a coward, an ignoramus, or a jackass. And then, because I simply cannot spare the time and energy to write you a volume explaining and defending my position, you imply that it is some kind of a crime on my part that I don't do so.

To me it seems likely, Dr. Lacey, that in 1900 or 1905, at the time of the first Russian revolution which was led by Trotsky, or in 1917, or even up to the middle 1920's, the Communist conspiracy was largely a child or at least a ward of the Zionist conspiracy. And for that reason Jews were preponderant in the top levels of the Communist hierarchy. But it seems equally clear to me that by 1937 or 1938, when Stalin had finally succeeded in taking into his own hands all of the reins of Communist power stretching out all over the world, the child had quite largely outgrown the parent -- as so often happens in the case of organizations as well as individuals. There followed a period when the Zionist conspiracy and the Communist conspiracy undoubtedly worked closely together, each one hoping and counting on "using" the other, and coming out on top. But it seems equally clear to me that today -- and that this has been completely true for at least the past fifteen years -- the Communist conspiracy has now absorbed into itself so many other leaders and elements, and has so outgrown the Zionist conspiracy, that it completely dominates the picture and that the Zionist conspiracy has itself become merely one of the tools of the top Communist command.

From this point I could go on into a long and needed discussion of the fact that there are today entirely too many people calling themselves Jews who

are high up in the Communist conspiracy, just as there are too many people calling themselves Methodist preachers who also are really Communist and not Methodists at all. And I could go into a great many other angles of the whole subject, all of which are important. But there just isn't time. The basic fact is that when an American or a Frenchman or an Indonesian or a Catholic or a Protestant or a Jew becomes a Communist, he gives up all other loyalties. He is then no longer an American or a Frenchman or an Indonesian, or a Catholic or a Protestant or a Jew at all, despite the fact that he will thereafter probably emphasize more than ever before his loyalty to one of these political groups or religious groups or both, because it serves his criminal purpose to do so. But the Communists themselves, especially those still calling themselves Jews, have done and will do everything they possibly can to have all Jews blamed for their own particular adherence to Communism, because this beautifully serves Communist purposes. And because, in the case of the Jews, for historic reasons which I certainly do not defend, it is so very easy to convince so many Americans of a Jewish power within the top ranks of the international Communist hierarchy which is utterly beyond anything they possess.

Some years ago, Dr. Lacey, I gave up a very promising business career, income, and all chance of ever having any peace or leisure in my life again, to fight the Communist conspiracy which threatens ever more imminently to enslave America along with the rest of the whole world. Do you think that, making that sacrifice, I would deliberately blind myself to the nature or identity of the enemy? I certainly would not. And on the other hand I am certainly not willing to let myself be distracted, by Communist guile and propaganda, and red herrings cleverly disguised, and led ever further into a blind alley where I am futilely fighting straw men set up for me, or at the very best only one expendable detachment of the conspirators, while the real fight for the freedom of our country and the whole world rages on a hundred fronts all around me.

Also, despite the fact that there are too large a percentage of Jews who are Communists and too large a percentage of Communists who are Jews, I am utterly unwilling to accept the thinking of those who assume that practically all Jews are Communists and vice versa. Nothing could be more ridiculous in the light of the actual known facts today. And it so happens that I know or have known personally and well such Jews as Alfred Kohlberg and William Schlamm and many others who have sacrificed more and shown more personal courage in fighting the Communist conspiracy than an awful lot of my anti-Communist Gentile friends. For the Communists have been able to infiltrate the whole society of Jews so much further, and thus put so much heavier invisible pressures on Jews who oppose them, than in the case of other segments of our population, that the Jew who will really fight them -- as Morrie Ryskind does, for instance -- deserves much more credit probably than do you and I. And the fact still remains that the vast majority of the ordinary

Jews in this country are simply being led by the nose, in believing much of what they do and in submitting to many of these pressures, exactly as are the huge majority of the American people, non-Jews, who also condemn you and myself and other anti-Communists as "crackpots" or worse.

Frankly, Dr. Lacey, I think that blaming the whole Communist conspiracy today, or during the past decade, on the Jews is an extremely dangerous over-simplification of our problem, and exactly what the Communists (including those who pose as Jews) want us to do. And I simply cannot go along with it.

Sincerely,

R:With

Robert Welch